In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.21, please substitute for claims 1 and 4-8 the following rewritten versions of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Versions with Markings to Show Changes Made."

1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide that codes for a protein that is linked to phenotypic switching in *Candida albicans* and that hybridizes, under stringent conditions, to the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 1.

2. (Amended) A polynucleotide according to claim 1, comprising the sequence of SEQ ID No. 3.

4. (Amended) A method of screening for a compound with the ability to inhibit expression or functionality of the CaNIK1 protein comprising:

(A) contacting a yeast cell that exhibits phenotypic switching with a test substance, wherein said yeast cell comprises:

(i) a polynucleotide according to claim 1 and

(ii) a promoter operably linked to said polynucleotide, such that said yeast cell produces a protein encoded by said polynucleotide; then

(B) monitoring the ability of said test substance to inhibit expression or functionality of said protein encoded by said polynucleotide in said yeast cell.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein step (B) comprises monitoring the level of said protein produced in said cell.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein step (B) comprises monitoring the level of mRNA encoded by said polynucleotide and produced by said cell.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein step (B) comprises monitoring the level of kinase activity within said yeast cell, wherein said kinase activity typifies said protein.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein a promoter is operably linked to a reporter gene and wherein step (B) comprises monitoring the level of transcription of said reporter gene within said yeast cell.

9. (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein step (B) comprises effecting a two-dimensional gel electrophoresis.

10. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein step (B) comprises effecting a Northern blot, a primer extension, or a ribonuclease protection assay.

11. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein step (B) comprises:

(A) labeling ATP with ^{32}P in vitro;

(B) running cellular proteins on a polyacrylamide gel; and

(C) determining the amount of ^{32}P labeled protein using autoradiography.

12. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein said reporter gene is a luciferase gene and luciferase activity is monitored using a luminometer.

13. (New) An isolated polynucleotide that encodes a protein linked to phenotypic switching in *Candida albicans* that exhibits 70% or greater homology to SEQ ID NO3.

14 (New) The polynucleotide of claim 13 that exhibits 80% or greater homology to SEQ ID NO 3.

15. (New) The polynucleotide of claim 13 that exhibits 90% or greater homology to SEQ ID NO3.

16. (New) An isolated polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID. NO 4.

17. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 that hybridizes under low stringency conditions.

18. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 that hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions.

19. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 that hybridizes under conditions of severely stringent conditions.

20. (New) A culture of a bacterial strain containing the lambda phage λSG15.1.

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 4-8 have been amended without prejudice or disclaimer, solely to facilitate prosecution. These amendments are not intended to limit the scope of the claims. Support for these amendments can be found, for example: on page 3, line 17; (claim 2) on page 12, at lines 14-18; (claim 4) on page 13, at lines 34-35; (claim 5) on page 14, at lines 5-7; (claim 6) on page 14 at lines 27-29; (claim 7) and on page 15 at lines 3-4; (claim 8).

New claims 9-20 have been added. These claims are fully supported in the specification, for example: at page 13, line 34 to page 15, line 10; (claims 9-12) on page 11, lines 23-25; (claims 13-15) on page 10, at lines 3-9; (claim 16) on page 7, at lines 20-34; (claims 17-19) and at page 16, line 30-33; (claim 20). Applicants intend to deposit a bacterial strain that carries lambda phage λSG15.1, and so notify the PTO, in accordance